

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CONFIDENTIALCOUNTRY **USSR**

REPORT

SUBJECT

Old Age Pension PlanDATE DISTR. **15 Sep 1961**NO. PAGES **1**

REFERENCES

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NEVALUATED INFORMATION

1.

Social Security and the Pension Plan in the
USSR. It discusses the old age pension, its manner of payment, eligibility,
amounts, additions and dependents.

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P E N S I O N

Social security in the U.S.S.R. is achieved through government and public funds exclusively.

At present nearly 20 million people receive government pensions, as compared to one million in 1920.

The state paid out 30,100 million rubles in pensions in 1955, 58,800 million in 1957, and 64,000 million in 1958.

In order to receive a pension, a Soviet worker neither contributes part of his wages nor makes payments from his personal savings. Industrial and office workers' pensions come from the government's social security budget, formed from insurance payments contributed by factories and offices. The state also appropriates sums for allotments for military personnel and students, as well as for personal pensions. Fourteen per cent of the 1958 budget went for social security needs.

According to the terms of the new pension law, adopted in July 1956, every industrial and office worker who has reached the required age /60 years of age for men and 55 for women/ and has the necessary tenure /25 years for men and 20 for women/, has the right to receive a full government old-age pension. Those who do not qualify in respect to tenure receive part of the general pension, but not less than one-quarter. In some cases old-age pensions are granted earlier, at 50 to 55 for men and at 40 to 50 for women.

Old-age pensions in the U.S.S.R. amount to 50-100 per cent of a person's actual pay. The lower his pay, the higher the rate of the pension he will receive. This makes it possible to lessen the difference between the largest and smallest pensions. The full minimum old-age pension cannot be less than 300 rubles a month. On the average, it comes to 60 per cent of a person's wages. Pensions are tax-free.

In the U.S.S.R. pensions are usually calculated on the basis of the average wages received for the last 12 months of work. If, for any reason, a person received less pay during his last year at work than at some other time during his life, he may

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choose five consecutive years within the last decade from which his pension will be calculated.

The amount of a pension is decided upon in each individual case, taking into account the pensioner's life and working conditions. For instance, two men of the same age with the same tenure who worked under the same conditions differ in that one has no family and the other has dependent children. Obviously they should not receive the same pension. Thus, the law provides for family allotments.

Additions to the basic pension are granted for uninterrupted service and in cases where there is an invalid in the family. These increases can amount to 30 per cent of the basic pension.

People who work underground or in unhealthy working conditions in hot shops and in other difficult jobs receive higher pensions.

Every dependent member of a family that has lost its breadwinner also has the right to receive a pension. A person's lawful dependents are his children, brothers and sisters under the age of 16 /18 in the case of students/, parents, grandchildren, grandparents and also an able-bodied wife or husband or parents who are compelled to care for the children of the deceased.

Children who have lost one parent have the right to receive a pension regardless of whether or not the other parent works. They continue to receive a full pension even though they study and receive a government stipend.

Members of collective farms and fishing co-operatives receive pensions from their place of work in accordance with their incomes.

The state does more for its pensioners than give them pensions. They also receive: free medical care; accommodations at sanatoriums and spas: from 1950-1955, 125,000 pensioners vacationed at the expense of the social security organizations of the R.S.F.S.R.; pay for any work they do; grants and special privileges in jobs, studies and household and cultural services.

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